

FROM GENERAL BURNSIDE'S ARMY.

Destitute Condition of the Rebel Army.

They are Barefooted and Naked.

Large Numbers Sent to the Hospitals.

Women and Children of Fredericksburg in the Woods.

A SEVERE SNOW-STORM.

No News that can be Telegraphed.

ATTACK ON OUR GUNBOATS.

A FEW SHOTS SCATTER THE REBELS.

A SEVERE STORM OF RAIN, HAIL AND SNOW.

Cowardly Brigadiers in Washington.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

The following dispatches have been received from your special correspondent with Burnside's army:

A lady who came over the river yesterday under a flag of truce, represents the condition of the Rebel army as destitute beyond description, and that they cannot possibly retain their position during the winter. Quite one-third of the army is without shoes, and hundreds are almost wholly without clothing. Hundreds in one regiment are said to be barefooted. Hard work upon the intrenchments, insufficient food, and scarcity of clothing, are sending regiment after regiment to the hospital. Many of the citizens of Fredericksburg, men, women and children, are encamped in the woods back of the city, and dare not return for fear of being shelled from their homes.

The Rebel camp-fires have almost entirely disappeared immediately in front of Falmouth, and no troops can be seen behind many of the intrenchments. Notwithstanding these indications, the forces upon the river and all the naturally weak points of the line are still strongly guarded. Deserters, who have been coming in for the past two or three days, all agree that Jackson joined the main body of the army more than a week since, and that when they left he was but a few miles back from the river.

OPPOSITE FREDERICKSBURG, Dec. 7, 1862. The weather is intensely cold, with three inches of snow. The ground is frozen hard. There is no army news which can be telegraphed.

On Thursday the Rebels brought some field-pieces to bear on our gunboats lying in the Rappahannock, near Port Royal. A few shots compelled them to withdraw their guns out of range. No harm was done.

Yesterday the weather was anything but pleasant. In the morning it commenced raining, then hailing, and about noon snow set in, which continued rapidly to fall until 10 o'clock last night. This morning there are about four inches of snow on the ground, and everything is frozen up.

Much complaint is expressed among army officers in reference to the large number of brigadier-generals hanging around Washington, with a view to getting appointed on courts-martial, in order to escape active service in the field.

There is nothing new from the other side of the river. The Rebels have not changed their position. HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Sunday, Dec. 7, 1862. Last night was intensely cold, and some of the troops suffered for the want of blankets. Ice formed in the Potomac and Aquia Creek from one and a half to two inches thick. To-day the sun came out fair and cheering, but the air continued piercing cold. The roads are hard and very rough.

Officers well informed state that Baginoo Jackson has arrived near Fredericksburg and joined his forces with those already there. They also report that the enemy have extended their lines several miles farther down the Rappahannock.

The report that Major Spaulding of the Engineer Brigade is under arrest for unnecessary delay in the transportation of pontoon teams from Washington is unfounded. That officer has been commended by his superiors for overcoming weighty obstacles in executing his orders.

There have been no field movements to-day.

Important Movements—A Crisis at Hand—The Delay of the Pontoon and its Consequences—The Commissary Department Working Admirably.

From Our Special Correspondent. HEADQUARTERS OF GEN. BURNSIDE, Dec. 5, 1862. Again I repeat, Gen. Burnside will not disappoint the Army, the Administration, or the loyal people at large—at least, so far as keeping the Army of the Potomac in motion.

To-day has been an active one, in every department. One grand division is on the march, and you may soon expect to hear from it, in close contact with the Rebels. Another one has been reviewed to-day, and a close inspection made of the fighting condition of the troops. The third has already undergone inspection, and is momentarily expecting marching orders. All the heavy reserve artillery, too, seems to be in motion. The pontoon trains and the Engineer Brigade have disappeared from the vicinity of headquarters, but where they or any other portion of the army have gone, I shall not for the present inform you. Perhaps you may learn by telegraph, before this reaches you, what movement is on foot; if so, all will be right; but I, for one, shall keep my plighted word. Everything, for the next three days, will depend upon the profound secrecy of the movement. Over across the Rappahannock, the seal will be broken, and the public will soon learn all they should know of what the Army of the Potomac has been doing.

The telegraph informed you several days since that Gen. Woodbury, commanding the Engineer Brigade, and Major Spaulding, his chief assistant, had been and were still under arrest for not forwarding the pontoon train in advance of the army. It is true that Gen. Woodbury was under arrest for two hours, but as soon as all the facts were known to Gen. Burnside he was instantly released. The capture will soon, probably, fall upon another party not connected with the army in the field, and it is to be hoped the proper committee in Congress will investigate the matter. Nearly one month's delay, and perhaps the failure of the campaign, may result simply from the non-arrival of the pontoon train. Whoever was at fault should be summarily dealt with. The Engineer Corps is now in a high state of efficiency, as all know in the army who have seen what it has done within the past two weeks in rebuilding roads and building bridges. It is now at

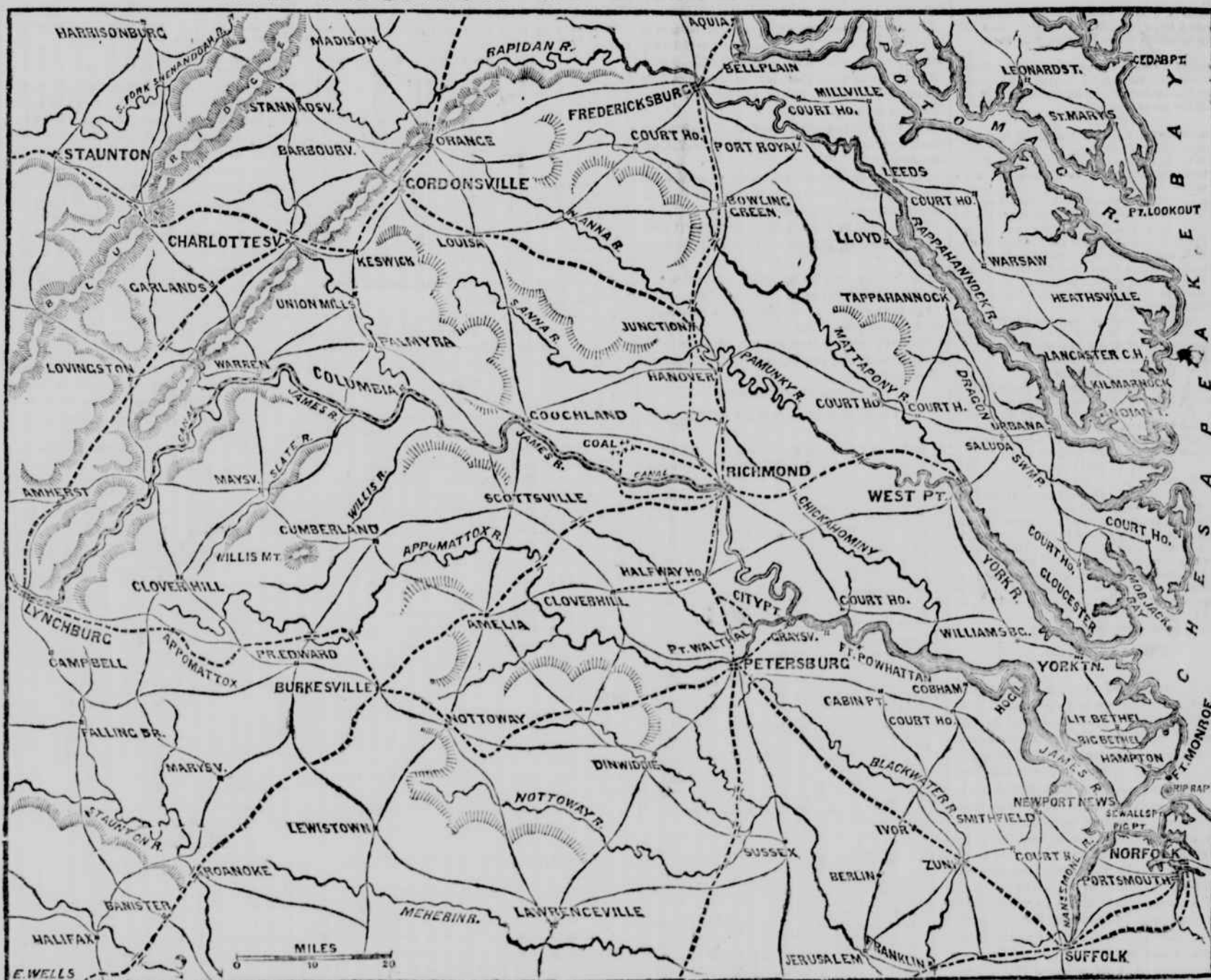
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THE POSITION IN EASTERN VIRGINIA.



The above Map gives an accurate view of that portion of the State of Virginia from which the public are now anxiously expecting important news.

Of course we are not at liberty to indicate the position of the several divisions of the Army of the Potomac, nor to specify in what direction to look for the

aid which everybody imagines will appear at the right moment. The reader has before him the coast and navigable streams from Aquia Creek to Suffolk;

but whether the great guns will first be heard in this or that river, each must guess for himself. Each must use a Yankee's privilege and guess for himself.

IMPORTANT FROM HARPER'S FERRY.

Winchester in our Possession Again.

Gen. Geary's Troops in Occupation.

GREAT ENTHUSIASM OF THE CITIZENS.

Capture of 125 Rebels, Horses, Mules and Flour.

HARPER'S FERRY, Va., Saturday, Dec. 6, 1862. Gen. Geary has just reported to Gen. Slocum the result of his reconnaissance. He left here on the 1st inst., and met the cavalry of the enemy, under White, Henderson, and Bayler, at Charlestown, routed them with loss in wounded; marched into Berryville the same evening; again met the enemy, drew him into a trap, killed five and wounded eighteen more, and the same evening bivouacked three miles beyond Berryville. Next day he advanced beyond the Opequan, skirmishing with Rebel cavalry and infantry, and bivouacked in Ash Hollow.

On the 3d, at 7 a. m., Gen. Geary appeared before Winchester, demanding an immediate surrender. The order was complied with, and the people received our forces with acclamations. Gen. Geary sent a few shells from the fortifications after the flying enemy, clear across the city, as a *feu de joie*. One hundred and twenty-five Rebels, unable to effect their escape from Winchester, were paroled. Seventy-five conscripts rushed from their concealment and begged for protection, which was extended without reserve. Refugees flocked for deliverance from persecution. Five of our own prisoners, confined in Winchester, were released, and the prison doors thrown open to a number of contrabands confined by the Rebels.

Next morning Gen. Geary prepared to depart, when large deputations of citizens begged him to remain. He explained that his orders forbade him, expressed his regret, and left amid the tears of some and the evident regret of thousands.

Gen. Geary reports a great revulsion of feeling everywhere he went, and that at Winchester it was almost complete. Marked kindness and generosity was shown our men.

Between Berryville and Winchester we captured about one hundred horses and mules, and several wagon loads of flour belonging to the Rebel army. Gen. Geary marched six miles toward Bunker Hill, cavalry continually hanging on his rear.

Yesterday he marched to Oakland, near Charlestown, his men bivouacking in the snow, which had been falling all day, and was now several inches deep. The cavalry still kept after us, but by an ingenious trap, were here so thoroughly whipped that our troops reported in peace on their snowy pillows.

This afternoon our forces returned cheerily and well. Our only loss was one man slightly wounded. Gen. Geary's force consisted of 3,300 chosen infantry from all the regiments in his division, two sections of artillery from Knapp's battery, two from McGilley's battery, and two from Hampton's battery—making altogether 12 guns, and fifty cavalry of the 1st Maryland.

Among the prisoners brought in are several Rebel cavalry that have not been paroled, and a Rebel infantry officer. Senator Wilkinson visited Gen. Slocum to-day. Four deserters from the 1st Maryland Rebel infantry came in yesterday.

OPERATIONS IN WESTERN VIRGINIA.

A Rebel Camp Surprised and Captured.

100 Prisoners, 100 Horses, 200 Stand of Arms, Wagons and Camp Equipage Taken.

NO LOSS ON THE UNION SIDE.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 6, 1862. The following has been received at headquarters: CHARLESTON, Va., Nov. 27, 1862.

Major N. H. McLean, A. A. General. Col. Paxton of the 2d Virginia Cavalry, supported by the 11th Ohio Infantry, made an attack on a post of the enemy near Cold Knob, Greenbrier Co., on the 24th inst. It was a successful surprise, capturing two commissioned officers, one hundred non-commissioned and privates, one hundred horses, two hundred stands of arms, four wagons and camp equipage of a regiment. The wagons, equipment and a part of the arms were destroyed by Col. Paxton. No loss on our side. On the day before a small scouting party of the 8th Virginia Infantry had a skirmish with the enemy's cavalry in Logan County. Our men were outnumbered and forced to retreat, though without serious loss.

J. D. COX, Major-General.

The Western Virginia Legislature.

WASHINGTON, Va., Saturday, Dec. 6, 1862. The State Senate to-day passed a preamble and resolution, setting forth that Mr. Carlisle had violated the instructions of the body that elected him, in failing to sustain the legitimate efforts of the Government to suppress the insurrection, in opposing his votes and speeches, in and out of the United States Senate, measures absolutely necessary to the preservation of the Union and enforcement of the laws, and in opposing the admission of the new State of Western Virginia into the Union, and requesting him to resign his seat in the United States Senate.

The resolution will come up in the House on Monday, and probably pass by a large majority. In the House, to-day, a resolution was offered requesting the United States House of Representatives to pass the new State bill now pending before it without alteration or amendment. It will come up on Monday, and pass by nearly a unanimous vote.

Gov. Pierpont's message indorses the emancipation policy of President Lincoln.

A Party of Rebels Repulsed by a Disabled Gunboat.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 6, 1862. On Wednesday morning last, as the Dragon, under command of Capt. Wright, was on her way to Port Royal, her engine broke down and she was forced to remain some hours near Bowles Rocks, about twenty-five miles up the river. A party of Rebels, probably thinking that she was not armed, put off from the south side of the river in five or six boats, in which were about fifty persons observed, and made toward the Dragon, but before they had approached too near, Capt. Wright let fly a shell, which exploded in one of the boats, and they hastily turned and pushed for the shore. With a glass, the officer saw the men were dressed in various uniforms, and probably a guerrilla band. The Dragon was towed down by the Satellite, and this morning was brought to the Washington Navy-Yard by the Resolute.

The Steamers Mississippi and Merrimack.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 6, 1862. The steamers Mississippi and Merrimack, from Newbern for Boston, anchored off Wood's Hole this afternoon, and were ordered to New-York.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Proclamation for a Congressional Election.

—Mr. Negar's District Exempted from the President's Proclamation.

FORTRESS MONROE, Friday, Dec. 5, 1862.

To-morrow Gen. Viele, as Military Governor, will issue a proclamation and a writ of election for a member of Congress from the Norfolk District, comprising the Counties of Norfolk, Princess Anne, Nansemond, and Isle of Wight, with the Cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth. A large vote will be polled, as the residents are anxious to save their slave property from the effects of the President's proclamation by conforming to its requirements. It is known that the Hon. Joseph Segar has succeeded in having his district, the Counties of Northampton, Accomac, Charles City, Elizabeth City, and Warwick, exempted by the President from the effect of his late proclamation.

A heavy storm has been raging here all day.

The Arrests of Messrs. Kugler and Wright.

THEATRE, N. J., Saturday, Dec. 6, 1862.

The arrests of Messrs. Kugler and Wright of Hunterdon County, New Jersey, made some time ago, on the charge of "interfering with enlistments," has been the subject of inquiry by the Grand Jury of Hunterdon County, which body has just adjourned. Several bills of indictment were presented against the parties concerned in the arrests, and among the number is one against Abraham R. Harris of this city, Deputy United States Marshal.

Marshal Harris was arrested and taken to Flemington this morning.

It is said that the authority for the arrest of Messrs. Kugler and Wright came from the United States District-Attorney of this State, Mr. Keasbey.

Launch of the Gunboat Maul.

BOSTON, Saturday, Dec. 6, 1862.

The steam gunboat Maul was successfully launched to-day. She is built on the plan of the Ericsson Monitor, with one turret, and is 190 feet long and 38 wide. Her hull is divided into six water-tight bulkheads.

The Old Point Boat.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 7, 1862.

The Old Point boat arrived this afternoon. She did not leave till Saturday afternoon, on account of a high gale, which has prevailed all day. Disasters are feared.

No news was received.

FROM THE INDIAN COUNTRY.

Continued Retreat of the Enemy—His Position and Strength.

The following dispatch was received by Major Wood last night: HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION ARMY OF THE FRONTIER, CAIRO, ILL., ARK., Nov. 30, 1862.

Gen. Marmaduke continued his flight all night after the battle of the 23d, and is now in Van Buren. Gen. Hindman was expected to reinforce him at this place on the evening of that day. Prisoners, of whom I captured 23, state that Marmaduke's force was 11,000. They were compelled to abandon two pieces of artillery disabled by my batteries. A number of their officers were killed, among them a Lieut.-Col. Monroe, of a Texas regiment, and a Capt. Martin, of an Arkansas regiment. They will not advance this side of the mountains, except with their combined forces, but I am prepared to meet them, and with my little army whip 25,000 of such chivalry.

An officer who came inside of our lines under a flag of truce, after night terminated the fighting, acknowledged that they were badly whipped and were chased.

Lieut. Johnson, 6th Kansas, dangerously wounded, may possibly recover. JAMES O. BLUNT, Brig.-Gen. Commanding.

GLORIOUS NEWS FROM MISSISSIPPI.

Occupation of Grenada, Miss., by the Union Forces.

FLIGHT OF THE REBELS.

DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY.

CAIRO, ILL., Saturday, Dec. 6, 1862. From the Memphis papers we learn that Gen. Hovey's expedition, 20,000 strong, which left Helena, Ark., some days ago, landed at Friar's Point, some fifteen or twenty miles below, marched to Grenada, Miss., and took possession of that place last Monday.

A large number of the citizens of Grenada fled on the approach of our troops. The proprietor of *The Appeal* removed his newspaper establishment to Marietta, Ga. Before the Union occupation of Grenada, the Rebels burned some 15 or 20 locomotives, and about 100 cars.

Grenada is a flourishing village in Yalobusha County, Miss., on the Yalobusha River, 113 miles north by east of Jackson, at the head of steamboat navigation, and was at one time a place of active business.

It is at the junction of the Mississippi Central, New Orleans and Jackson Railroad, 77 miles south of Helena, or 48 miles below Abbeville, where Gen. Grant's advance was at last accounts.

Rebels Falling Back to Oxford.—Grant Giving them a Blow in the Rear.—Battery of Six Guns Captured.—Col. Fletcher's Regiment in Cairo. CAIRO, Dec. 3, 1862.

The Rebels are falling back to Oxford from Abbeville, and how much further we are not advised. The fact is, they have not sufficient force in fighting trim to meet Gen. Grant, and they must fall back as long as he chooses to press on. The Rebels are about to receive, if they have not already received, a blow in the rear for which they are, no doubt, ill prepared.

Particulars will be sent in a day or two. On Monday morning, Col. Lee's cavalry, by a brilliant dash, captured a battery of six guns, and the horses belonging to it, on the north side of the Tallahatchie. The horses were huddled and ready to start the place back, but the gallant Lee's swift-footed cavalry gobbled them up and brought them off in safety. One Unionist only was wounded.

The 31st Missouri, Col. Fletcher, arrived this evening on the Northern.

There are about twenty-five cases of small-pox in the Contraband Hospital; two new cases to-day; five died yesterday.

No arrival from Memphis to-day. Col. Fletcher forgot to report, at headquarters, while the Northern was lying at the wharf, and, after the boat got under way down the river, she was fired on from the fort and brought back.

It should be remembered that commanding officers are required to report at headquarters on arriving at Cairo, and that by neglecting to do so they are likely to receive a summons from the fort.

The Movement from Helena.

From The St. Louis Republic.

Our Memphis correspondent, in an interesting letter published in our last issue, somewhat upset the conjectures that had been made in reference to the destination of Gen. Hovey's expedition from Helena. It turns out that it was neither designed for Arkansas Post, nor for Little Rock, but that, instead of operating within Gen. Curtis's department, Gen. Hovey had orders to place his command in the State of Mississippi, to bear some part in the execution of the plans of Gen. Grant and Sherman, for the dislodgment of the enemy from his position at Abbeville.

The letter referred to gave our readers, we may assume, all the particulars of this movement, proper to be published, that were known at Memphis on Sunday last. Gen. Hovey, with sixteen battalions of infantry, cavalry and artillery, landed Wednesday night last, at Friar's Point, twelve miles below Helena, and on the following day the march was taken up for some point in the interior.

Had Gen. Hovey's command been intended for a permanent reinforcement of the column of either Gen. Grant or Gen. Sherman, it seems a little odd of the way it should have gone down instead of up the river. Naturally if it joined either it would be attached to the force of Gen. Sherman, advancing from Memphis; and as the latter is believed to be moving, in conjunction with Gen. Grant upon the enemy's works at Abbeville, the expedition spoken of has gone in nearly an opposite direction. It may be, indeed, that a junction of Sherman's and Hovey's troops is to be made, but if so, it is plain that something of more than ordinary importance is to be done.

In trying to form a correct judgment beforehand of the duty expected of this independent column, one thing strikes us as the large proportion of cavalry. This, we take it, means that whatever is to be done is to be done quickly. Of course it cannot be in contemplation to throw less than 15,000 troops of all arms in the rear of the Rebel army for the purpose of fighting a battle. Yet, can, therefore, regard the expedition from Helena as anything more than an auxiliary to the movements of Grant and Sherman in front. It may be possible for the cavalry to destroy bridges and cut up the road in the Rebel line of retreat, and this might be attempted while the attention of the enemy at Abbeville is engaged in awaiting an advance of the main columns. Besides numerous small water courses, there are two crossing the Mississippi Central Railroad at Yoccoa, and Water Valley, respectively eighteen and twenty-six miles below Abbeville.

It might not be wise to approach the bridge at Yoccoa, but if the movements have been conducted with proper secrecy, we do not see why the retreat of the Rebels could not be very much obstructed by sudden and vigorous operations between that point and the Yalobusha River at Grenada. These calculations are based, of course, on the hypothesis that the Rebels will make a stand at Abbeville, and that they have not anticipated the designs of Gen. Hovey by withdrawing south of his proposed theater of operations. There is some fear of this. At any rate, we accept the movement from Helena as one of the indications of the commencement of hostilities in Mississippi at an early date. A battle will depend upon the Rebels. They can have it before the end of this week if they desire, or they may postpone it for some little time by a "series of well-conducted retreats."

The Winter Campaign.

From The Washington Daily Evening Star, Dec. 2.

We learn that an important movement has taken place from Helena. The rivers in that vicinity are rising rapidly, and Gen. Hovey never hesitates to strike when the time comes to administer the blow. Gen. Grant is also "moving on the enemy's works," with seven days' rations, and will strike the Rebels with a large force, as soon as the Mississippi. The Helons at Grenada, Miss., are becoming alarmed, and *The Memphis Appeal* has already begun its preparations for a second move. Vicksburg and Jackson will soon be ours; Tennessee will be liberated; and the Cotton States will be made to feel the terror of war, and drink the cup of rebellion and revolution to its very dregs.

Gen. Bragg, it is reported, is making haste to strengthen the beleaguered armies of Price and Van Dorn, now under the command of Gen. Joe Johnson. He is already at Aberdeen, Miss., and we may expect another battle in that State that will exceed the bloody struggle at Shiloh, Tenn.

For some days past disappointment and dissatisfaction has been written on the faces of our people, but we confidently look for joy and hope soon to light up their countenances, as they read of other glorious achievements by their noble boys in the Mississippi Valley. If the war does "drag its slow length along," we are confident rebellion will receive fearful and crushing blows in the Southwest. This would be a great blow to the Rebels, and a great blow to the Government which has done so much for them. It will be a fitting return for the insult to our people in proposing to buy their loyalty with a promise of the free navigation of the Mississippi. The navigation of the father of waters will be free for succeeding generations; what a noble legacy to bequeath our children—that strong right arms of their fathers made it so.

SOLDIERS AT PLYMOUTH CHURCH.—The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher had, for a portion of his audience, yesterday morning, about five hundred soldiers of the 10th New-Hampshire Regiment.